The Berks County Press.

A FAMILY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO NEWS AND THE DIFFUSION OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

WE STAND UPON THE IMMUTABLE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE—NO HOSTILE POWER SHALL DRIVE US FROM OUR POSITION.—ANDREW JACKSON.

VOL. XXXI. READING, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 21, 1865. PUBLISHED BY F. L. MYERS. NO. 13.

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317 PENN STREET,
PHOTOGRAPHS PAINTED IN OIL & CRAYON.

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ATTORNEY AT LAW.—OFFICE, No. 422 Penn Street, north side, Reading, Pa.

Dr. W. Murray Weidman
OFFERS his Professional Services to the citizens of Reading and vicinity. Office: No. 20 North 5th street. (Residence at the late Gen. C. B. Keim's.)

CHARLES DAVIS, Attorney at Law, Office, corner of Court House alley and Penn Square, Reading, Pa.

Dr. Hartley Ermold,
Surgeon Dentist,
Has removed his office to No. 25 North Fifth street, Reading, Pa., where he will be found at all times, ready to attend to the wants of those who may require his professional services.

DR. CHARLES KELL, Office and residence No. 25 North Fifth street, Reading, Pa.

READING BUSINESS CARDS.

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Watches, Clocks and Jewelry,
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LAUER'S BREWERY,
READING, PA.

FREDERICK BEATY DECEASED.

OFFICE OF THE
DELAWARE
MUTUAL SAFETY INSURANCE
COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15, 1864.

The following statement of the affairs of the Company is published in accordance with the requirements of its Charter:

Premiums received on Marine Risks for the year ending December 31, 1864 ..... $1,000,000 00
Premiums received on Fire Risks for the year ending December 31, 1864 ..... 1,000,000 00
Premiums received on Inland Navigation Risks for the year ending December 31, 1864 ..... 1,000,000 00
Total Premiums $3,000,000 00

Losses paid during the same period $1,000,000 00
Returns of Premiums and Expenses 1,000,000 00
Total Amount of Losses and Expenses $2,000,000 00

The Company has the following assets, viz:
United States Six per Cent. Loan $1,000,000 00
United States Five per Cent. Loan 1,000,000 00
Pennsylvania Six per Cent. Loan 1,000,000 00
Philadelphia City Six per Cent. Loan 1,000,000 00
Philadelphia City Six per Cent. Loan 1,000,000 00
Philadelphia City

BERKS COUNTY PRESS
READING, PA
FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1865

THE GREAT HEART OF THE NATION

THE MURDER
OF
ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES.

Excitement and Sorrow throughout the Land.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON SWORN IN

Washington, April 15—7.30 A. M.—Abraham Lincoln died this morning, at 7.22 o'clock, in the house to which he was carried last night, after being shot by an assassin.

Mr. Lincoln never recovered from the effects of the wound he received last night, and remained in a state of unconsciousness during the entire time he lingered after the fatal shot was fired.

Secretary Stanton, Gen. Halleck, Gen. Dana, Surgeon General Barnes, Dr. Stone, and Robert Lincoln, son of the President, were present when the last breath was drawn.

Secretary Stanton, immediately after the President breathed his last, proceeded to the parlor of the house, and in the presence of Gen. Halleck, Gen. Dana, Surgeon General Barnes, Dr. Stone, and Robert Lincoln, son of the President, administered the oath of office to Andrew Johnson, Vice President, who thereupon became President of the United States.

Secretary Stanton then proceeded to the Kirkwood House, where Vice President Johnson has been residing, and notified him that the duties of President devolved upon him, and requested him to be sworn in as President.

Vice President Johnson replied that he would be ready to do so in an hour. He proceeded to his room, and prepared himself for the ceremony. Judge Underwood, of the United States Supreme Court, was then sent for, and in the presence of the Cabinet, Judge Underwood administered the oath of office to Andrew Johnson, who became President of the United States.

The Cabinet will remain together, and the usual business of the Government will be transacted by the Executive Departments.

The President's body will be removed to the White House this morning, where it will lie in state in the East Room, until the funeral ceremonies are performed.

The funeral will take place on Wednesday next, at 12 o'clock, noon.

The following proclamation has been issued:

Proclamation by the Govern—

In the announcement of the painful duty devolving upon me by the death of the late President, Abraham Lincoln, the Chief Magistrate of the United States, I am sure I express the sentiment of the whole American people when I say that we have lost our best man; and in the hour of our deepest affliction it is consoling to know that the memory of his exalted character, his noble achievements, and his sublime martyrdom will be treasured up for ever by a grateful people.

A copy of the Constitution is herewith transmitted.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Proclamation by the Governor.

In the name of the people of Pennsylvania, I, ANDREW G. CURTIN, Governor of the said Commonwealth, do proclaim, that the people may assemble in their usual places of worship, on the day appointed by the President of the United States, to testify their sorrow for the death of their late Chief Magistrate, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, who fell by the hand of an assassin.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-ninth.

By the Governor:

ANDREW G. CURTIN.

ELIAS WOMRATH, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The Funeral.

On Tuesday the 18th inst. Governor Curtin, Secretary Stanton, Postmaster General Dennison, Senator Wade, and a number of other citizens, called on President Andrew Johnson, and escorted the Remains of President Lincoln to the Treasury Building at Washington city. Mr. Johnson was in a short address introduced to the vast concourse, the President replied at length to the following effect:

"He or he alone guilty." Here, gentlemen, you perhaps may see the practical effects of secession at no future period. You deny I will not. Long ere secession as taught the masses of the people of the South as it has taught the people of the North, a crime will never be pardoned [applause] and I will say, without reference to persons, that treason is a crime and must be punished [applause]. Take consolation, fellow citizens, in the midst of your great affliction, God reigns and the people still live. Let us hope that through the shedding of innocent blood there may be established upon a surer foundation the principles of justice, humanity, liberty, and self-government, which he whose life has been sacrificed has labored to maintain. [Applause.] I will not detain you longer upon this occasion. The time is full of solemnity, and deep and profound are the responsibilities which are imposed upon me. I will not shrink from them, but will perform my duty, relying upon God for support, and upon you for your sympathy and your prayers. [Applause.]

Death of Richard Cobden.

Intelligence reaches us from London that Richard Cobden, the English corn law agitator, died on the 2d inst., and his remains were interred on the 7th inst. in the family vault at Lavington, Sussex. Mr. Cobden was born in 1804, in Sussex.

He labored solely among the common people, and was never in favor with the aristocracy or ruling classes. He was a commercial traveler in Egypt, Turkey and Greece, and was a calico printer in London before he became noted as a liberal statesman. He was elected to Parliament in 1841, and was a member of that body when the famous corn law league was formed, and he was one of the leaders of the movement. In 1846 he had the glory of seeing the corn laws repealed, which had been in force for more than 500 years, and which had been established especially to keep up the price of bread for the benefit of the landed aristocracy. This law was repealed by a vote of 327 to 229. Mr. Cobden was also a leading member of the league which secured the abolition, in 1849, of the navigation laws, which had been in force for more than 150 years. In 1849 he took a prominent part in the movement which resulted in the establishment of penny postage throughout the United Kingdom, and was chiefly instrumental in securing the treaty of commerce between England and France, which went into effect in 1860. He was a member of the House of Commons, and was engaged in the Russian war, which he opposed as a "needless and unjust war." He was also opposed to the Chinese war, which he denounced as "unjust, unnecessary and cruel." He was a member of the American delegation to the Paris Peace Congress, and was also a member of the Peace Congress held in London in 1851. He was a warm friend of the American Union.

Mr. Cobden was married in 1840 to Miss Catherine Anthony, daughter of Mr. Gerald Anthony, of Midhurst, Sussex. He left a family of seven children.

Mr. Cobden's Views on the Rebellion.

The following letter from Richard Cobden, written to a friend in this city, a few days before the assassination of the President, will be read with interest:

LONDON, March 28, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., and I am glad to find that you are not disposed to take a gloomy view of the present crisis in the United States. I am sure that the people of the North have no reason to be discouraged at the present aspect of affairs. They have had a long and severe struggle, but they have come out of it victorious, and they have established a character for courage and endurance which will command the respect of the whole world. The South, on the other hand, has been completely exhausted, and is now at the mercy of the North. Under these circumstances, I think the people of the North will be wise to show a generous spirit to the vanquished. They will be strong enough to dictate their own terms, and I hope they will not be disposed to humiliate the South by any unnecessary severity. I am sure that such a course will be the best for the future welfare of the United States. I am, dear sir, yours truly,

RICHARD COBDEN.

Washington, April 17—Secretary Seward is improving this morning. He passed a comfortable night, and awoke in his usual cheerful humor. Mrs. Seward, Miss Seward, Major Seward, and the Rev. Mr. Pruyn, the clergyman of the family, are in attendance upon him. The Secretary's son, Frederick, is also at his bedside. The wounds in the face of Mr. Seward's son, Augustus, are doing well. The wound in the neck of Mr. Hansell, the messenger, is also doing well, and no serious consequences are apprehended.

Mr. Johnson remains in the house that he occupied before he was sworn in as President. He has not yet moved into the Executive Mansion, and it is not probable that he will do so for some time to come. He has been engaged all day in receiving calls from the members of the Cabinet, Senators, Representatives, and others.

The funeral arrangements have been completed. The remains will lie in state in the East Room of the Executive Mansion from 10 o'clock A. M. to 2 o'clock P. M. to-morrow (Tuesday). The funeral services will be performed in the Capitol at 12 o'clock, noon, on Wednesday. The remains will be taken to Springfield, Illinois, for interment.

Washington, April 17.—Secretary Seward is very much improved this morning. He is able to converse freely with his friends, and is in excellent spirits. His wounds are doing well, and no unfavorable symptoms have appeared. Mr. Frederick Seward is also improving. Major Seward, Assistant Adjutant General, is still confined to his bed, but is doing well. The wounded messenger, Hansell, is also improving.

Washington, April 17.—Secretary Seward's son, Augustus, died this morning at 2 o'clock.

Washington, D. C., April 18, 1865.—To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States:

SIR:—We, the undersigned, citizens of the United States, tender to you our sincere condolence in the terrible bereavement which has befallen you and the nation, and the expression of our unbounded confidence in your ability and patriotism to administer the affairs of the Government in this hour of its trial.

Washington, D. C., April 18, 1865.—To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States:

SIR:—We, the undersigned, citizens of the District of Columbia, tender to you our sincere condolence in the terrible bereavement which has befallen you and the nation, and the expression of our unbounded confidence in your ability and patriotism to administer the affairs of the Government in this hour of its trial.

At a meeting of the Cabinet, held on the 15th inst., at the house where the President lay dying, it was decided that the funeral should take place on Wednesday next, at 12 o'clock, noon, in the Capitol at Washington, and that the remains should be taken to Springfield, Illinois, for interment.

The following order has been issued:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, April 15, 1865.

GENERAL ORDER.

The President of the United States having been removed by the hand of an assassin, his obsequies will be solemnized on Wednesday next, at 12 o'clock, noon, at the Capitol, in the city of Washington, and his remains will be taken to Springfield, Illinois, for interment.

The Secretary of War directs that on the day of the funeral all the Departments at Washington be draped in mourning, and that the same be done at all military posts and stations, and on board all vessels in the navy.

The Secretary of War directs that a National salute be fired at all military posts and stations, and on board all vessels in the navy, every half hour, commencing at sunrise on the day of the funeral, and ending at sunset.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant Adjutant General.

The Assassin.

The name of Mrs. Lincoln's assassin is John Wilkes Booth, and he is a native of Maryland. He is a young man, and has been a favorite on the boards of the theatres in Washington, Baltimore, and other cities. He is a brother of Edwin Booth, the tragedian, who is also a native of Maryland, and who is now playing an engagement in Philadelphia.

The assassin was formerly a resident of Baltimore, and was well known in that city. He was a member of the Baltimore Light Cavalry, and was with his company in Washington at the time of the inauguration of President Lincoln, in March, 1861. He was also with his company in Washington when the Sixth Massachusetts regiment was attacked by a mob in Baltimore, on the 19th of April, 1861, and when the first blood was shed in the late rebellion.

Booth is a rebel sympathizer, and has been for a long time. He is a violent secessionist, and has frequently declared that he would like to see Lincoln killed. He has been heard to express himself to that effect in bar rooms, and in other places in Washington and Baltimore.

Booth is a man of medium height, and has a slender figure. He is about twenty-six years of age, and has a dark complexion, dark hair and eyes, and is rather handsome in appearance.

Booth's brother, Edwin, is the most celebrated tragedian on the American stage. He is considered by many to be the equal of the late Forrest, and by others he is considered superior to him. He is a native of Maryland, and is about thirty-five years of age. He is a man of fine personal appearance, and is a favorite with the ladies.

Booth's brother, Junius Brutus Booth, Jr., is also a tragedian of considerable merit, but is not as well known as his brothers.

Booth's mother is still living, and resides with her husband, Junius Booth, Sr., on a farm in Harford county, Maryland, about twenty miles from Baltimore.

Booth's father is also a tragedian of considerable merit, but is not as well known as his sons.

Booth's brother, Edwin, is now playing an engagement in Philadelphia, and was there when the news of the assassination of President Lincoln was received. He was overwhelmed with grief when he learned that his brother was the assassin, and refused to perform that night. He has since played, but has refused to appear on the stage.

Booth's brother, Junius Brutus Booth, Jr., is also in Philadelphia, and was there when the news of the assassination was received. He was also overwhelmed with grief when he learned that his brother was the assassin, and refused to perform that night. He has since played, but has refused to appear on the stage

The Weekly Cecilian Press.

TOWN MEETING.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, who think the convening and celebration of our centennial, change, one of the largest meetings ever held in this town assembled at the Court House, at 2 o'clock on Tuesday. The building was crowded, and hundreds were compelled to remain outside. The meeting was organized as follows:

PRESIDENT,
Hon. S. W. Sadtler, Mayor.

VICE PRESIDENTS,
C. A. Neville, R. H. Bayless.

SECRETARIES,
W. H. Strickland, J. Lowenstein.

At the request of the Mayor, the Rev. Mr. Richards offered an eloquent and appropriate prayer to God.

Dr. D. Lardner moved the appointment of a Committee to prepare resolutions for the consideration of the meeting, which was agreed to and the following gentlemen were appointed to the duty:

W. M. Barnes,	J. Pringle Jones,
J. W. Woodward,	J. Hoffman, Esq.,
Col. Wm. Wilson,	Dr. Wm. Hall,
A. M. Clerman,	Paul Pry,
J. S. Sherlock,	Jesse R. Smith,
H. Glass, Esq.,	Wm. J. Leiper,
Daniel Young,	A. P. Tutton, Esq.,
J. A. Neville,	John Mellon,
Wm. W. Bergler,	Daniel Mercur,
Jacob Keely, Esq.,	Dr. Wm. Hemphill,
Hon. Geo. W. Woodward,	Dr. Wm. Darlington,
Hon. Wm. Strong,	Dr. Thomas, Esq.

During the absence of the Committee the meeting was addressed by Hon. Wm. Strong, Washington. His remarks were only a suggestive and appropriate introduction to the excellent, the eloquent effort of Mr. Lowenstein, who, after a brief sketch of the history of slavery, Abraham Lincoln, very strongly expressed the gratification and rejoicing of all with great attention by all.

The Committee on Resolutions retired, and reported, through Mr. Young, the following:

Whereas, God, in his infinite and mysterious providence, has permitted to befall our beloved country the sad and lightning, fiendish deed of the foulest assassination that ever blighted the fair fame of any nation, by the hand of a single individual, who, in the heart of the most patriotic and confidence-loving people on earth, has struck down their honored President, who, in all his career, has proved himself to be one of the noblest, the most unselfish, the most conscientious, the most humane, the most Christian and the most truly patriotic of the rulers of the earth; many of them being compelled to arrow against his own people who has ever striking naught, save words of peace and good will to all men, and to this country; and

Whereas, It is becoming and right that the people of Hastings should, in a public manner, express their deep sorrow at this event in the great calamity which has overwhelmed the country; and

Resolved, That we do solemnly unite with the multitude in the hope that the death of the President may be the means of bringing about a more perfect union between the States, and that the blood of Lincoln may be the cement which shall unite the hearts of the people of the North, South and West in a more perfect union and a more lasting peace than has ever before existed between the States of this country.

Resolved, That we do solemnly unite with the people of Washington

PYONS' PURE OLD

CATAWBA BRANDY

SPARKLING CATAWBA WINES.

Pyons' Pure Old Catawba Brandy

Sparkling Catawba Wines,

For Sale by Druggists Generally.

Pyons' Pure Old Catawba Brandy, Sparkling Catawba Wines, and Pyons' Pure Old Port Wine, are manufactured from the Juice of the Grape, and are recommended and prescribed by the Medical Faculty as a pure article for Medicinal purposes.

Pyons' Pure Old Catawba Brandy, Sparkling Catawba Wines, and Pyons' Pure Old Port Wine, are for sale by Druggists generally throughout the United States